

# **Warm Springs Funding Summit**

Fire Management Conference Room

September 24, 2019

## **Welcome**

## **Introductions**

## **Review Agenda and Objectives**

## **Updates**

PPT - Presented by Barry Buchanan (B&A Asset Management) and Keith Whisenhunt (PDGNW)

Why are we here?

Support rejuvenation of the Warm Springs Community

Promote Self Sufficiency

Establish Sustainability

To provide engineering and asset management

To help address the Emergency projects

## **Emergency Projects**

- Shitike Creek Crossing Repair (chlorinated water discharged into creek)
  - o Ran 6" pipe through existing 14" pipe to restore water for community
- PRV/Flow Control Stations
  - o Renewal of five failed potable water, system critical, pressure/flow/surge control stations' mechanical and electrical equipment
- New Shitike Creek Crossing
  - o Replacement of 14" water main crossing
- SE Control Station Surge Valve
  - o Failed draining water from the SE reservoir and distribution system. Removed the failed valve and isolated the main with a blank flange.
- 8" AC Main Repair
- Engineer services to address EPA Order – program management services to coordinate and observe HUD and BIA funded projects
- EPA Order Engineering Report – the development of a potable water system-wide review and asset status report
- WTP O&M Support

Biggest priority – find out what we have. Right now we are “fire fighting” and repairing failures.

Alissa

Successes

- Participation in sub-committees since last funding summit.
- Commitment from state for 7.8 M from lottery funds. Accessible in 2021. The hope is to have access sooner to begin metering (we don't have data about usage or leak)
- Funding from BIA from 250k – supports repair of pressure valves

#### Challenges

- Lack of capacity – not a lot of staff. No planner. Not enough people.

#### Reflections on Survey responses

- Partnership opportunities
- Shared, common understanding of challenges
- Communication not happening, loose ends need to be tied up. Some responsibilities sit with planning department that doesn't currently exist. Barriers to future funding from lapses in reporting.
- Capacity issue is clear and needs to be addressed as bottleneck.
- Even if money fell out of the sky – how do we maintain this? A small group is churning out results. Concerned about burn out.
- Capacity issue is not just with Tribes. Rural development is concern across the state. If we can solve them here, maybe we can replicate elsewhere.
- Individual people *can* make a difference.

#### Leadership Remarks

##### Tribal Council – Wilson Wewah

Good to hear that other communities are struggling – a relief to know we are not alone.

Thank you to Rep. Bonham for helping us access lottery dollars.

Concerned community doesn't know extent of problem.

We have progressed.

Aware of challenges with staff capacity and don't want staff to burn out.

##### Captain

Thanks for coming back.

Hope to be pointed in direction for funding.

Other member (burgundy sweatshirt, blue shirt)

Thanks for stepping up and stepping forward

Frustrating to be “freshman” in this work.

We still have a ways to go.

Glendon

Know that everyone is here with good intentions.

We need help.

Thank you to staff and those in room.

##### Lois

Appreciate the meeting and help received  
Concerned about water and landfill

**Chief**

Told when joined Council, told I was responsible for policy.  
BIA and agencies were running things and we didn't know how good or bad the state of the situation was.

**Bryan Mercier, BIA**

Plan to live in all 45 tribal communities responsible for. Spent this summer in Warm Springs.  
Challenges ahead. Must be frank and honest.

**Jeff McMorris, HUD**

HUD brings coordination and some funding.  
Just want to be helpful.

**Dan Opalski, EPA**

Appreciation to Tribe for hosting.  
Here to listen to what the needs are.

**Craig Haugland, IHS**

Focused on water, sanitation, and sewage  
Rural community facility maintenance is difficult. Maintaining staff.  
We will bring all the funding we can.

**John Huffman, USDA-RD State Director**

Thank you for hosting us.  
Special place in my heart for Warm Springs (former legislator connected to this area.)  
Sustainability is key – creating economy and jobs.  
Presented on water at Coastal Conf – days of \$15-20 monthly water bills are gone.  
Moving forward – we will need partnership.

**Representative Daniel Bonham, OR District 59**

First and foremost want to support tribal sovereignty and what the Tribe needs.  
Fred Gerard, Greg Smith, Tina Kotek, and Governor Brown helped get money for this work.  
Looking forward to being part of the conversation and getting to a conversation about economic development.

**Annette Liebe, Oregon Governor's Office**

Thank you to the Tribe for inviting us.  
The Governor remains committed to providing resources to our neighbors.  
Thank you Rep Bonham

Inspired and encouraged by resources coming to the room. Thanks to Se-ah-dom for facilitating.

Looking forward to continuing progressing.

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**Sub-Committee Report Outs (see handout)**

**Bruce Irwin, Drinking Water**

Several funding opportunities presented.

HUD has provided advanced notice that we will be reimbursed for expenses.

Barry's presentation covered some of our work. BIA 240k, HUD 704k.

[Handout on drinking water.]

EPA funding discussed at break.

June meeting allowed relationships to start – both professional and personal.

Q: 20 month delay on lottery bonds but can be used retro – have you all thought about getting a loan to bridge?

Can't use lottery bonds to pay for debt. Clarifying which kind of debts we can use.

Q: What is scope of committee? All things water.

Q: What is the status of water treatment plant? 13 months since HUD money received. Requesting extension because of urgent needs in May.

Appreciation/Strength – Collaboration

Challenge/Need – \$100m in needs

**Annette Liebe (Governor's Office), Wastewater**

Appreciation/Strength – 3M in federal funding for wastewater

Additional funding opps

- Planning – Business Oregon and USDA possibilities
- Infrastructure

Need – technical expertise

EPA is permitting organization – next permit in 2021. Not sure what we need to be re-permitted.

Future plans for Kah-nee-ta will impact our work. ~3M estimate is for resort being open.

**Greg Svelund (OR DEQ), Landfill**

Appreciation – great group with right expertise.

Funding for equipment and vehicles. Need to update fleet!

Specific needs of transfer station.

Clean-up and closure resources.

Short-term fixes

- USDA funding for fencing and security to mitigate illegal dumping. Question about jurisdiction for enforcement.
- EPA assessment of landfill. We don't know what's out there.

Question about what happens when Dry Creek hits its capacity?

### **Sarah Lindsley (HUD), Housing**

Appreciation – Collaboration

Most critical needs

Housing rehab – identified as key need.

New Construction – exploring resources (like NCCC) and grants (HUD (Indian Housing Block grant – tribe and housing authority decide priority), Meyer (but delayed until new info provided on water), RCAC, State for clean-up)

### **Wenona Wilson, Sustainability**

Covers things that don't fit into other boxes.

Appreciation – Opportunity to work with the great Warm Springs Tribe.

Opportunities

- Planning – opportunities to work with EDA, Central OR Intergovernmental Council (can serve as fiscal agent or grant administrator), Business Oregon, Universities (UofO, PSU).
- Staffing and Admin – additional funding/capacity from funding mentioned in planning.
- Community engagement – Community Action Team, AmeriCorps.

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### **Subcommittee Meetings**

Any new recommendations based on info today?

Water – EPA and OHA funding feel like near term funding opps we should pursue. WIN Grant through EPA. Oregon gets 500k in med timeframe but could align with lottery \$.

Wastewater – better able to focus our work with this time.

Landfill – new funding source identified

Housing – New idea - brownfield funding

Sustainability – Potential for master plan. There was a plan developed 20 years ago, "The People's Plan." First step is to educate community.

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### **Group Discussion and Action Planning:**

**How do we ensure we have the direction we need to be successful?**

**What do tribes need from state and federal partners?**

**What do state and federal partners need from tribes?**

**Barriers that we need to remove?**

## Next steps

- Need to fulfill existing commitments (reporting)
- Capacity to apply for and manage grants. We have a long list of opportunities but that's a big lift to apply, contract and manage funds!
- We are plugging holes. Need to address meters and fee for service.
- Has the conversation started with the community about fees? It has been brought to the Tribal Council. (and is in the 2020 budget) Conversations have been had about the current state but not about future fees with residents. Commercial tenants have been notified they will be charged a flat fee and there's no push back.
- How do we communicate best and respect sovereignty?
  - o BIA and IHS have obligations from the 1855 Treaty and they have failed to do this. I am waiting for them to offer something. We have two officers who work for the Council and vet opportunities.
  - o Important to streamline opportunities for Council and for sub-committees to coordinate so there isn't overlap.
- Are there questions about current funding/loans and compliance? Yes.
  - o Need to identify existing commitments and compliance needs (reporting, timelines, etc.)
  - o Future EPA funding is tied to EDA SEDS report. We don't have the capacity to complete (and specifically the public outreach piece.)  
*Person in room who can help?*
  - o Also barrier in how we classified water and sewage expenses for USDA expenses.
  - o BIA and HUD money from 2018 – we don't have people (with qualifications and experience) to complete work.
- Need to review previous plans and update what has been completed and not.. and prioritize next steps.

### For Landfill Committee

- Legal authorization needed for site assessment (EPA)
- Need code for illegal trespass and dumping
- Same structure for sub-committee reports would help
- UofO for planning support?

Bryan

Abt 40 years ago, 1,300 BIA employees now 300 (1,000 didn't go away but are now tribal employees)

There is tension between treaty obligations and self-determination

Don't want to lose site of paradigm shift opp towards sustainability

## **Group Discussion: Agreements and Next Steps**

- “Chairs” to discuss subcommittee report structure
- Come back to ending question at beginning next time
- Timing –
  - o Big meeting every 3-4 months or 2x/year
  - o Planning Committee (Chairs?) meet regularly
  - o Need priorities, roles/responsibilities, timelines, expectations, updates
  - o Quarterly reports from subcommittees (not wait just for meetings)

### **SubCommittees**

- Each committee needs a tribal staff who then represents work to Tribal Council
- There are some Tribal Council Members who have not attended a meeting. Subcommittees need to report at an upcoming meeting.
- Recommendations for Tribal Council resolutions

### **Big questions**

- Economic development with a 5-10 year time horizon
- Meth addiction (and contamination)
- Is the committee approach the right approach? This could be \$50M and needs a program management office.
- We need a dollar amount for projects with clear priorities – for example, with landfill, are we closing? Mitigating? Moving? And what’s the cost for each option.
- Reminder – Tribal Council has proclamation to consider about priorities.
- We need bigger picture of all projects with timing and sense of priority

## **Closing**

### **Resources**

- Lottery Bonds
- Philanthropy
- RARE Internship at Program
- HUD – Distressed Communities Program through LISC. Targeted for communities smaller than 40k with preference to communities who are experiencing a federally declared disaster.
- USDA – Funds for emergency declaration.